

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 4, 6-7, and 18, without prejudice, and amend claim 16 as follows:

1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A device for measuring blood pressure in a vascular structure, comprising:

a tubular sheath sized for insertion into the vascular structure, the tubular sheath including an open proximal end, a closed distal end, at least two axially spaced apart openings in a sidewall thereof, and an inside peripheral surface,

an elongated tube disposed within the tubular sheath and including an open proximal end, a closed distal end, a single opening in a sidewall thereof and an outside peripheral surface engaging the inside peripheral surface of the tubular sheath about the entire outside peripheral surface of the elongated tube,

the elongated tube being frictionally received within the tubular sheath thereby allowing the opening of the elongated tube to be selectively aligned with one of the axially spaced apart openings of the tubular sheath at a time and so that engagement between the inside peripheral surface of the tubular sheath and the outside peripheral surface of the elongated tube substantially prevents fluid communication between the inside peripheral surface of the tubular sheath and the outside peripheral surface of the elongated tube and through the tubular sheath, and

a pressure transducer in fluid communication with the elongated tube proximal end so that blood from the vascular structure is communicated to the pressure transducer when the elongated tube opening is aligned with one of the tubular sheath openings, thereby to directly measure the blood pressure;

wherein the blood pressure measuring device has a distal portion that is inserted into the vascular structure, and wherein an exterior surface of the distal portion of the blood pressure measuring device has a cross-sectional profile of a single circle

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The pressure measuring device of claim 10 wherein the proximal end and the distal end of the tubular sheath define a first length, the proximal end and the distal end of the elongated tube define a second length, the second length being greater than the first length so that the proximal end of the elongated tube is disposed outside of the proximal end of the tubular sheath, the elongated tube further comprising two markings, one of the markings of the elongated tube being aligned with the proximal end of the tubular sheath when the opening of the elongated tube is aligned with one of the openings of the tubular sheath, the other of the markings of the elongated tube being aligned with the proximal end of the tubular sheath when the opening of the elongated tube is aligned with the other of the openings of the tubular sheath.

14. (Original) The pressure measuring device of claim 13 wherein at least one distal end of the tubular sheath or elongated tube comprises a radiopaque marker at a distal end thereof.

15 (Canceled)

16 (Currently Amended) A device for measuring blood pressure in a vascular structure, comprising:

a tubular sheath sized for insertion into the vascular structure, the tubular sheath including an open proximal end, a closed distal end, and at least two axially spaced apart openings in a sidewall thereof, and an inside peripheral surface,

an elongated tube disposed within the tubular sheath and including an open proximal end, a closed distal end and a single opening in a sidewall thereof, and an outside peripheral surface radially engaging the inside peripheral surface of the tubular sheath about the entire outside peripheral surface of the elongated tube,

the elongated tube being slidable within the tubular sheath thereby allowing the opening of the elongated tube to be selectively aligned with one of the axially spaced apart openings of the tubular sheath at a time,

the proximal end and the distal end of the tubular sheath define a first length,

the proximal end and the distal end of the elongated tube define a second length,

the second length being greater than the first length so that the proximal end of the elongated tube is disposed outside of the proximal end of the tubular sheath,

the elongated tube further comprising two markings, one of the markings of the elongated tube being aligned with the proximal end of the tubular sheath when the opening of the elongated tube is aligned with one of the openings of the tubular sheath, the other of the markings of the elongated tube being aligned with the proximal end of the tubular sheath when the opening of the elongated tube is aligned with the other of the openings of the tubular sheath, and

a pressure transducer in fluid communication with the elongated tube proximal end so that blood from the vascular structure is communicated to the pressure transducer when the elongated tube opening is aligned with one of the tubular sheath openings, thereby to directly measure the blood pressure;

wherein the blood pressure measuring device has a distal portion that is inserted into the vascular structure, and wherein an exterior surface of the distal portion of the blood pressure measuring device has a cross-sectional profile of a single circle

17-18 (Canceled)

19. (Original) The pressure measuring device of claim 16 wherein at least one of the elongated tube or tubular sheath comprises a radiopaque marker at a distal end thereof

20-30. (Canceled).